Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An ophthalmic transdermal patch for treating diseases of the posterior segment of the eye comprising a drug-containing layer uniformly containing in a base matrix ~~10~~ 20 W/W% of polyoxyethylene oleyl ether and 10-20 W/W% of isopropyl myristate as percutaneous absorption enhancers and a drug to be delivered to at least a part of the posterior segment of the eye including the lens, the vitreous body, the choroid and the retina.

2. (Original) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 1 wherein the drug is an anti-cataract agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, an anti-viral agent, an immunosuppressant, a calcium channel antagonist, a glutamate receptor antagonist or a cysteine protease inhibitor.

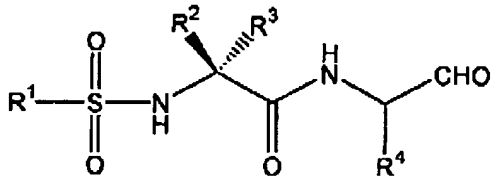
3-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 1 wherein the base matrix comprises acrylic adhesive, silicone elastomer or styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 1 wherein the drug is a steroidal drug.

9. (Previously presented) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 1 wherein the drug is a compound of the formula (1)



(1)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^1 denotes C1 - C4 alkyl, or C6 - C10 aryl which may be substituted, R^2 and R^3 are the same or different from each other and denote hydrogen or C1 - C4 alkyl, or are combined to form a C3 - C7 ring, and R^4 denotes aryl, cycloalkyl, or a lower alkyl which may be substituted with an aromatic heterocyclic ring.

10. (Original) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 9 wherein the drug is N-(4-fluorophenylsulfonyl)-L-valyl-L-leucinal or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a disease of at least a part of the posterior segment of the eye including the lens, the vitreous body, the choroid and the retina in an animal including a human, wherein the method comprises applying to the animal a transdermal patch comprising a drug-containing layer uniformly containing in a base matrix an effective amount of a drug to be delivered to the part and 10~~-20~~ W/W% of polyoxyethylene oleyl ether and 10-20 W/W% of isopropyl myristate as percutaneous absorption enhancers.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the drug is an anti-cataract agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, an anti-viral agent, an immunosuppressant, a calcium channel antagonist, a glutamate receptor antagonist or a cysteine protease inhibitor.

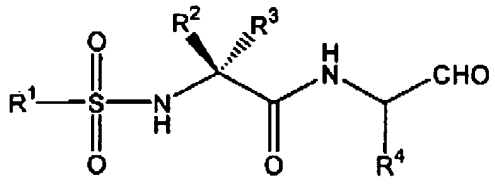
13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the base matrix comprises acrylic adhesive, silicone elastomer or styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the drug is a steroidal drug.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the drug is a compound of the formula (1)

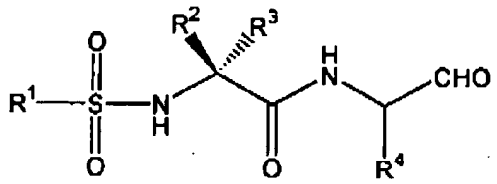


(1)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^1 denotes C1 - C4 alkyl, or C6 - C10 aryl which may be substituted, R^2 and R^3 are the same or different from each other and denote hydrogen or C1 - C4 alkyl, or are combined to form a C3 - C7 ring, and R^4 denotes aryl, cycloalkyl, or a lower alkyl which may be substituted with an aromatic heterocyclic ring.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the drug is N-(4-fluorophenyl-sulfonyl)-L-valyl-L-leucinal or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Currently Amended) An ophthalmic transdermal patch for treating diseases of the posterior segment of the eye comprising a drug-containing layer uniformly containing in a base matrix ~~10~~ 20 W/W% of polyoxyethylene oleyl ether and 10-20 W/W% of isopropyl myristate as percutaneous absorption enhancers and a drug to be delivered to at least a part of the posterior segment of the eye including the lens, the vitreous body, the choroid and the retina, wherein the drug is a steroidal drug or a compound of the formula (1)



(1)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^1 denotes C1 - C4 alkyl, or C6 - C10 aryl which may be substituted, R^2 and R^3 are the same or different from each other and denote hydrogen or C1 - C4 alkyl, or are combined to form a C3 - C7 ring, and R^4 denotes aryl, cycloalkyl, or a lower alkyl which may be substituted with an aromatic heterocyclic ring.

22-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 21 wherein the base matrix comprises acrylic adhesive, silicone elastomer or styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 21 wherein the drug is N-(4-fluorophenylsulfonyl)-L-valyl-L-leucinal or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The ophthalmic transdermal patch of claim 21 wherein the steroidal drug is prednisolone.